

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 SS-15 SP-02
L-03 H-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00
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APPROVED BY EA/K:PRMAYHEW
EA/P - MR. CANNON

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PDIP, KS

SUBJECT: PRESS GUIDANCE ON PAK TONG-SON INDICTMENT

1. FOLLOWING IS PRESS GUIDANCE CONCERNING INDICTMENT OF
PAK TONG-SON ANNOUNCED SEPTEMBER 6 BY ATTORNEY GENERAL.

QUOTE

Q: WHAT IS THE STATE DEPARTMENT DOING TO OBTAIN THE
RETURN OF TONG SON PARK TO THE U.S.?

A: TONG SUN PARK IS A FUGITIVE FROM U.S. JUSTICE. WE HAVE
REQUESTED THE COOPERATION OF THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT IN
OBTAINING HIS RETURN. THIS IS BEING DONE THROUGH
DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS AND WE DO NOT BELIEVE IT IS USEFUL
TO GO INTO ANY DETAIL.

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Q: DOES THE U.S. HAVE AN EXTRADITION TREATY WITH SOUTH
KOREA?

A: NO, WE DO NOT. HOWEVER, SUCH REQUESTS AS WE HAVE
MADE TO THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT ARE NOT UNCOMMON AND IT IS
NOT UNUSUAL EVEN FOR COUNTRIES WITH WHICH WE DO NOT HAVE
EXTRADITION TREATIES TO COOPERATE IN SECURING THE RETURN

OF FUGITIVES FROM U.S. JUSTICE AT OUR REQUEST.

Q: WILL PARK GET IMMUNITY IF HE TESTIFIES IN WASHINGTON
(OR SIMILAR LEGAL QUESTIONS)?

A: I WOULD REFER ANY QUESTIONS CONCERNING LEGAL ASPECTS
OF THIS CASE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE. END QUOTE.

2. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION AT SEPTEMBER 7 NOON BRIEFING,
SPOKESMAN SAID HE KNEW OF NO REPORTS THAT THE
ADMINISTRATION IS CONSIDERING WITHHOLDING AID IF PAK
IS NOT RETURNED TO U.S. ANSWERING FURTHER QUESTIONS
SPOKESMAN INDICATED THAT, IN VIEW OF LACK OF FORMAL
EXTRADITION TREATY, DEPT HAD MADE CLEAR TO ROKG,
THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS, THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT
WOULD LIKE ROKG AID IN RETURNING PAK TO THE U.S. HE
REFUSED TO CHARACTERIZE ROK REACTION TO OUR REQUEST.
QUESTIONED AS TO WHEN THIS WILL BECOME AN INTER-
GOVERNMENTAL ISSUE, SPOKESMAN SAID HE WAS NOT PREPARED TO
ANSWER THAT QUESTION NOW, ADDING THAT FIRST THE
RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PAK AND THE ROKG MUST BE CLEARLY
ESTABLISHED. HE ALSO REFUSED TO SPECULATE ON WHAT
EFFECT ROK REFUSAL TO COOPERATE WOULD HAVE ON US/ROK
RELATIONS. IN ADDITION THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION ON
WHETHER U.S. EFFORTS TO FORCE ROK COOPERATION MIGHT NOT
PUT THE U.S. INTO POSITION OF EXAMINING ITS OWN ACTIVITIES
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TO INFLUENCE OTHER COUNTRIES.

3. SPOKESMAN TOOK FOLLOWING QUESTIONS, AND DEPT HAS
POSTED RESPONSE:

QUOTE

Q: WHEN DID THE U.S. BEGIN DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS TO HAVE
TONG SUN PARK RETURNED TO THE UNITED STATES?

A: THESE EFFORTS HAVE BEEN UNDERWAY FOR SOME TIME;
HOWEVER, I DO NOT WANT TO DISCUSS THEM IN DETAIL. UNQUOTE

QUOTE

Q: CAN YOU TELL US WHAT MR. JAWORSKI DISCUSSED WITH
THE SECRETARY TODAY?

A: MR. JAWORSKI MET AT HIS REQUEST WITH THE SECRETARY TO
DISCUSS THE HOUSE ETHICS COMMITTEE INVESTIGATION. HE WAS
ASSURED THAT THE DEPARTMENT WILL CONTINUE ITS FULL
COOPERATION WITH THE INVESTIGATION. DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS
NOW UNDERWAY TO OBTAIN TONG SUN PARK'S RETURN TO

WASHINGTON WERE ALSO DISCUSSED. I CANNOT PROVIDE
ANY FURTHER DETAILS OF THE MEETING.

4. TEXTS OF EXTENSIVE PRESS PLAY ON INDICTMENT BEING
CARRIED IN WIRELESS FILE. COPY OF INDICTMENT BEING SENT
TO POST BY POUCH. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
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Disposition History: n/a
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